

Words from Free

I believe it is time for a serious re-evaluation of human priorities. As a species of such advanced intelligence and technology, we have the tendency to think of nothing but human advancement. We view the human race as being separate and above the life cycles of nature. This ideology of superiority over all things living and of the very land itself is leading to a large rupture in the natural order. One need not look far to see the ill effects of the "beneficial" technology.

Just count the number of super-fund sites or toxic/nuclear waste dumps. The hole in the ozone layer, that grows larger year by year with the ever rising climate temperature. The loss of wild areas, in search of more, always more, resources. These are just a few of the examples of destruction (there are many more) that the mindset of "human first" is causing. The very fact that we know the use of petrol chemicals releases toxins and pollutants into the ground water and the atmosphere attests to our continued willingness to ignore our impact upon our environment.

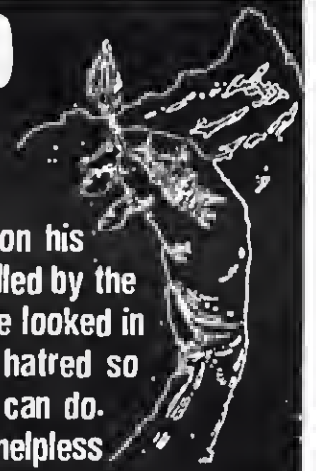
The reason for this willingness is, of course, that we have not yet significantly suffered the results of our actions. Although cancer is on the rise, the rate of extinction is increasing and natural disasters that have never occurred in certain regions of the world are becoming common, (i.e. tornadoes in Southern California), as a general rule we wish not to think of these things. No longer can we separate ourselves from wild nature, pretending that technology

will keep us safe and intact. We must accept and embrace the fact that we, too, are a part of the natural life cycle, not above it, not on top of it. We must scrutinize the effect that we are having.

It is time for us to once again learn to live in harmony with the Earth and the other inhabitants of it. I am not suggesting that we go back to a completely primitive lifestyle, for we have forgotten far too many survival instincts for that. But we must have a reprieve of advanced, oppressive, life controlling technology. We must learn to live sustainably or become completely artificial. We have the means to change, the question is, do we have the desire?



DON'T JUST STAND THERE! by FREE



I watch in horror as my friend bleeds. Bloody on his hands, bloody on his knees. Being beat down, pulled by the hair, kicked in the ribs. The police don't care. I've looked in their eyes. And I know what I've seen. It's a hatred so intense, it really scares me. There is nothing I can do. Because the law's against me. So, I stand by helpless while my friend screams "Help...what did I do? Stop...no...ahhh! My eyes! Please...you're hurting me." I listen in anguish to the pleas, there's nothing I can do, the law's against me. I scream in rage as the clubs swing. But there's nothing I can do, the law's against me. I feel disgust when I see the pigs smiling. And there's nothing I can do, cuz the law's against me. Fuck it! I ain't gonna let the law stop me.

I'll organize, you just wait and see. I'll watch your system fall, I'll live to see us free. Your soul is so corrupt, your heart is truly black. I never used to hate, till you put a gun to my back. You fueled this rage inside me, made who I am. Your oppression made us hate. You made us warriors....Now tonight we strike.

Tear gas fumes fill the air. Fires rage and sirens blare. Men and wimmin dressed in black run through the streets. We're fighting back. Riot cops are forming lines, suddenly Molotov's come from the sides. Scared and outnumbered, their guns go off...it's too late for them. They could have joined us. Angry and armed we smash thru their lines. We're fighting for our freedom. We're fighting for our lives.

Some may think this message seems harsh. But, what'll you do when YOU ain't got no freedom left? Sometimes non-violence is compliance. Sometimes you have to fight back if you ever want things to change. Don't just stand there.

FIGHT BACK NOW!!

Some Ways To Help Free

Write Free

Prison is an extremely lonely place and sending letters to Free asking how you can help, sharing stories, telling him about what is going on in the world is a great way to help. Free responds to his letters and is a great correspondent. All letters can be sent to: **Jeffrey Luers, #13797671, Oregon State Prison, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310.** Take care not to write anything on the envelope except the addresses and to avoid writing the words "Anarchy" or "Anarchism".

Contribute to Free's College Education

Free is currently taking classes in prison toward a college degree. Obviously, this will take time and a lot of money. All checks and money orders can be made out to "**Howl for Freedom**" and send to their address listed below.

Send him a book or zine

Prisoners in Oregon State Prisons must receive new books and they must be sent directly from the publisher. Best bets for getting books to Free are: Amazon.com (No, they aren't anarchists but they have everything and can often get books into prison. Their website is: www.amazon.com).

Write to the Governor of Oregon

Urge the Governor to commute Free's absurdly long 22.5 year sentence. Point out the punishment does not fit the 'crime' and that the Tyree oil conviction was based on circumstantial evidence. Sample letters are available from Free's Defense Network, **Howl for Freedom, POB 50263, Eugene, OR 97405, howl_for_freedom@yahoo.com**

Contribute to Free's Legal Defense

Free is appealing his 22.5 year sentence on numerous grounds. It will take a few years before it gets before the court and will take lots of funds. This is the largest expense in defending oneself from state charges. Make all checks and money orders to "**Howl for Freedom**" and send to the address listed below.

**For more info on how you can help Jeffrey Luers, please write to him personally, or write to: Free's Defense Network
PO Box 50263, Eugene, OR 97405.**

Check-out the website: www.freefreenow.org

Jeffrey Luers #13797671

OSP, 2605 State Street, Salem, OR 97310

BACKGROUND ON THE CASE

On June 23, 2000, Jeffrey "Free" Luers and Craig "Critter" Marshall were indicted on nine felony counts and one misdemeanor. The charges were placed on the "defendants acting together with others as yet unnamed," opening the door to a continuous investigation against activists in Eugene.

On June 16 at 1:30 AM, Luers and Marshall were stopped by Springfield police for a "routine traffic violation." (The car they were driving had a headlight out.) When Springfield police called in their licenses, the Eugene Police Department ordered them held. They were then turned over to the Eugene police and booked at Lane County Jail on charges of Criminal Mischief and Arson. The next day, the Eugene police told the media that Luers and Marshall were being held on suspicion of an arson at a Eugene car dealership, resulting in \$40,000 in damage. They claimed the arson occurred at the time of the arrest and, contradicting the Springfield police, stated that Eugene police followed the suspects from the scene.

On June 17, Eugene police obtained a warrant to search Luers' residence for specific items, including empty plastic containers, sponges, incense sticks, matches, rubber bands, paint, gasoline, and correspondence to the both of them. Another resident was detained and questioned for two hours. BATF was identified at the scene. Since that time, activists have reported continued surveillance of their homes and offices, by both the Eugene police and the FBI.

After sometime in jail, Craig pleaded guilty to two lesser charges and is now serving a 5-year sentence. Free went to trial after being offered a deal for over 10 years. On June 11th, 2001, Jeff "Free" Luers was sentenced to nearly 23 years on 11 charges ranging from Arson I to Attempted Criminal Mischief stemming from two incidents last year in Eugene, Oregon.

Free had admitted to criminal mischief regarding a truck fire at Romania Chevrolet. At the sentencing he read a statement taking accountability for the Romania fire, and emphasizing the care he took to ensure no one would be injured. He said:

"It cannot be said that I am unfeeling or uncaring. My heart is filled with love and compassion. I fight to protect life....all life. Not to take it. It's not an exaggeration to say that we're experiencing a period of extinction equal to that of the dinosaurs. 40,000 species go extinct each year, yet we continue to pollute and exploit the natural world... I will not ask this court to grant me leniency. All I ask is that you believe the sincerity of my words, and that you believe that my actions, whether or not you believe them to be misguided, stem from the love I have in my heart."

The judge responded by saying that he "never doubted Free's sincerity". He stated that Free's political beliefs would not influence the sentencing, that he would be sentenced "solely on the severity of the crimes". Yet Free received a sentence harsher than that of many murderers and rapists. We are not so naive as to say we're surprised with the sentence, the judge made many comments during the trial that indicated he'd already decided the outcome. He was often seen completely ignoring the testimony, typing on his laptop instead of listening. An appeal is already underway.

Make no mistake...the war is being waged on the Earth and all its creatures. Do not participate in the State's campaign to marginalize and incapacitate those who take radical action in defense of the Earth. Failure to support our political prisoners is tantamount to sanctioning repression by the State.

"Howl" for Free. Howl for all political prisoners. They will hear you.